

ABSTRACT

A system and method are provided for adding network entities and appliances to a mobile wireless Internet. A graphical user interface on a user appliance or network entity is used to start a plug and play process. In the plug and play process a temporary IP address is assigned to the entity or appliance. The temporary address is tested for uniqueness. A search mechanism identifies and contacts a plug server that uses information from the user/operator to authenticate the user and/or validate subscription information. Upon authentication or validation the plug server dispatches an inspector agent to determine the software needs of the new entity or appliance. The plug server obtains the requested software from the software inventory and the inspector agent downloads the software onto the new entity or appliance and installs it therein. The element then uses the DRCP/DHCP client to obtain a new IP address. Link layer and topology information are selected and downloaded to the entity or appliance and the unit is plugged into the network for mobile wireless Internet access.